**Draft Minutes – BRCA Board Meeting**

5 April 2018

**Attendees:**

**Board Members**

Bart Bilmer, Andrea Cordonier, John Dwyer, Jill MacDonald, Mary MacLean Bradly, Joan Simpson, Inge vanGemeren

**Financial Statement**

Financial statements were presented and discussed. Particular attention was paid to hydro costs, which continue to be of concern. This prompted a discussion on the possibility of a new furnace. (See discussion below under “Hall Rental and Maintenance”.) It was moved that the Financial Statements be accepted and this was approved unanimously.

**Minutes**

The minutes of the February 2018 Meeting were approved unanimously.

**Hall Rental and Maintenance**

Following discussion of the high hydro costs and the proposal to get a new furnace that would heat the entire Hall, the Board committed to having an energy audit conducted as a first step. Member John Dwyer was to organise this. It was also agreed that an assessment should be conducted of the state of the stone foundation. Possible sources for this were to be gathered and discussed at a subsequent meeting.

The Chairperson indicated that the Government portion of the cost-shared Canada 150 Grant had been increased from 40% to 50%. The Chairperson also indicated that our application for a Trillium Grant had made the short list but had ultimately been rejected. Member Mary MacLean Bradly agreed to work with the Chairperson on subsequent applications, in particular by helping to define appropriate metrics.

There was a general discussion on existing repair needs: the pass-through door from the kitchen; water damage in the Women’s Washroom and the possibility of vanities for the bathroom. These latter two issues will be addressed when the Board resumes its efforts to finalise renovations to the bathrooms.

In response to a request from the Boots and Baskets Group, it was agreed that the quilted tapestry would remain down for the date of their auction (April 18) to ensure that it was not damaged. It was also agreed they could be given the go-ahead to store their supplies in the newly-built cupboards. (UPDATE: Member John Dwyer has conveyed the decision to the appropriate representative of Boots and Baskets.) The Board will assume responsibility to remove and replace these when the cupboards are painted.

The Board accepted the offer of resident Fairlie Ellis to replace the existing hanging baskets at the Hall with others that were more versatile.

**Other Business**

**Major Community Events**

Member Andrea Cordonier informed the Board that plans for National Film Day and Jane’s Walk had not worked out. Various other initiatives, including the possibility of a ‘public square’ during the period that the bridge is closed, were discussed.

Member Bart Bilmer noted that 2018 is the 225th anniversary of the founding of Burritt’s Rapids and the Board agreed that efforts would be made to commemorate this.

With regard to the Theme Dinner, it was agreed that a notice would be sent out informing residents of the timing of the event. It was also agreed that three Spirit of Burritt’s Rapids Day Lilies would be auctioned off during the event. Finally, the Board agreed that the piano should be removed from the stage and to the Annex.

**Work on Hamlet Planning Design**

The Chairperson and member Bart Bilmer reported on their on-going efforts on this issue, including the agreement by the North Grenville Municipal authorities to have the community take the lead in the development of Hamlet Design Guidelines. Generalities regarding the process for doing this were discussed and will feature in future Board Meetings.

**Greening Committee**

The Board was informed that greening would not be holding a Plant Sale this year, but that a suitable occasion would be chosen to sell off several “Spirit of Burritt’s Rapids Day Lilies” that were available this year. (See note above under “Major Community Events”.)

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

**May 3 2018 at 7pm**